GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4768
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2002
AMOUNT FOR RURAL TELEPHONY OBLIGATIONS
GANTA SRINIVASA RAO

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sought from the Planning Commission for meeting the rural telephony obligation for the year 2002- 2003;

(b) the amount approved by the Planning Commission; and

(c) the manner in which resources would be met for the rural telephony?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) had prepared two plan proposals for 2002-03. One plan was for Rs.17,853 crores containing a sum of Rs.4,206 crores as compensation from Government besides full reimbursement of License Fee, Spectrum Charges and relaxations in the payment of dividends and servicing of Govt. loan etc. towards Rural telephony. An alternate plan for Rs.14,076 crores, based on the above mentioned reimbursement/relaxations and containing Rs.1 crores as compensation from Government towards rural telephony was also prepared. Planning Commission has approved the alternate plan with reduced outlay.

(b) Rs.1 crore

(c) Rural telephones shall be provided in the alternative plan, through internal generation, compensation as well as reimbursements/relaxations from Government, as mentioned above.